

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Cancelled) A fixing system for fixing a bending tool, said tool having two fixing surfaces for fixing by clamping, and a retaining groove situated beneath one of the fixing surfaces, the groove presenting a top edge and a bottom edge, said system comprising:

- a clamping body having a first clamping surface suitable for co-operating with one of the fixing surfaces of the tool,
- a pivotally-mounted tool clamp having a second clamping surface, said clamp being capable of taking up a tool clamping first position in which said fixing surfaces of the tool are clamped between said first and second clamping surfaces, and a tool mounting and/or dismounting second position in which said second clamping surface of the clamp is spaced apart from said first clamping surface of the body; and
- a tool-retaining member comprising a plurality of blades, each blade comprising:

- . a first elastically-deformable branch secured in part to the clamp;

- . a second elastically-deformable branch directed upwards and having an end suitable for penetrating into said retaining groove, and a portion suitable for co-operating with the bottom edge of said retaining groove when the tool pivots; and

. at least one angled portion located between said first and second elastically-deformable branches.

2. (Currently Amended) A fixing system according to claim 11 1, wherein:

~~. when said clamp is brought into said tool-dismounting second position, said end of the second branch remains engaged in said retaining groove; and~~

- when said clamp is in said tool-dismounting second position, ~~the~~ an assembly constituted by said two angle parts are ~~is~~ suitable for deforming under ~~the~~ effect of ~~the~~ pivoting of said ~~the~~ tool so that an end of said second angled part ~~branch~~ becomes disengaged from said retaining groove.

3. (Currently Amended) A fixing system according to claim 11 1, wherein said second angled part includes ~~branch comprises~~ a main portion and said end of said ~~the~~ second angled part ~~branch~~ forms an angle with said main portion.

4. (Currently Amended) A fixing system according to claim 11 1, wherein said top edge of said ~~the~~ retaining groove is chamfered.

5. (Currently Amended) A fixing system according to claim 11 ~~1~~, wherein:

— when said ~~the~~ clamp is brought into its clamping position, said retaining member exerts a force having a vertical component on said ~~the~~ tool.

6. (Currently Amended) A fixing system according to claim 11 ~~1~~, wherein said ~~the~~ end ~~15~~ of said second angled part ~~branch~~ comes into abutment against the top edge of said retaining groove whatever said ~~the~~ position of said ~~the~~ clamp.

7. (Withdrawn) A fixing system according to claim 1, wherein said clamp has an outside surface opposite from said second clamping surface, and said first branch has an end which is secured to said outside surface of the clamp.

8. (Withdrawn) A fixing system according to claim 1, wherein the end of said second branch has a top edge of rounded shape.

9. (Withdrawn) A fixing system according to claim 1, wherein said, clamp is pivotally-mounted around a pivot axis and has an inside surface provided with a groove, said groove extending along the direction of said clamp pivot axis and receiving the end of the second branch while the tool pivots.

10. (Withdrawn) A fixing system according to claim 1, wherein said retaining member is made out of elastically-deformable sheet material with said blades being mutually aligned.

Please add the following new claim:

11. (New) A system for fixing a bending tool, said tool including two parallel fixing surfaces for fixing by clamping and a retaining groove, said system comprising:

(a) a clamping body having a first clamping surface collaborating with one fixing surface of said tool;

(b) a tool clamp mounted so that it can pivot, said tool clamp having a second clamping surface, said tool clamp being moveable between a first tool-clamping position in which fixing surfaces of said tool are clamped between said first and second clamping surfaces and a second position, in which said second clamping surface is separated from said first clamping surface of said clamping body allowing mounting/demounting of said tool; and

(c) a tool retaining member distinct from said clamping body including a number of mutually parallel elastically deformable blades arranged in a same plane, each blade having a first end secured to said clamping body, a running part arranged in such a way that, at rest, it is pressed against said first fixing face of said clamping tool and a second end shifted with respect to said first clamping surface of said clamping body, said second end having at least a first angled part angled toward said tool with respect to said running part and a second angled part angled in an opposite direction whereby said angled parts, when said blade is at rest, are held elastically in a groove of the tool and whereby, when said clamp is in said second position, said running part of said blade can be deformed elastically to allow said angled parts of said elastically deformable blades to be introduced into or extracted from said groove.